

## **Press Release**

# Top UK business school works to further strengthen ties between UK and UAE

Delegation of MBA students from Cass Business School in London visit the UAE

**Dubai, UAE; May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013:** In the week following the historic state visit of His Highness Sheikh Khalifa to the UK, Cass Business School, part of City University London, is also doing its part to further strengthen ties between the UAE and UK financial communities. This week, it is bringing a delegation of 45 MBA students to the UAE in order to cultivate a better understanding of the UAE's unique business culture.

The delegation is in the UAE as part of Cass Business School's 'International Study Tour', which includes visits to a number of successful local businesses in both Dubai and Abu Dhabi. During the five day tour, students are set to meet the leadership teams of Mubadala, Dubai International Financial Centre, Etihad Airways, Dubai Aluminium, JWT, Emaar, DNV KEMA, du Telecoms, Nakheel, Masdar Renewable Energy City, The Abraaj Group, Hawkamah, Nasser Saidi & Associates, amongst others.

As well as seeing the best of local industry, students will also partake in a number of cultural activities including a tour of the Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding (SMCCU), a desert safari adventure and a trip up the Burj Khalifa. The delegation will also be invited to a reception on the evening of the 6<sup>th</sup> of May at the Capital Club, where they will observe a panel discussion on "Understanding the Gulf Executive Talent Marketplace". Hosted by Cass Dubai Centre and moderated by Nicolas McDonagh from RLM Finsbury, the panellists include representatives from REED, Boyden, RP International and Shane Philips Consultants.

Professor Steven Haberman, Dean of Cass Business School, said: "The UAE International Study Tour provides a great platform for our London students to learn more about one of the fastest growing and most dynamic economies in the world. The fact that we have our own EMBA programme in Dubai has been invaluable in helping us secure such a stellar programme of activities."

"We are extremely grateful to each of the businesses taking part, and look forward to continuing our relationship with the UAE long into the future."

Ehsan Razavizadeh, Regional Director, MENA and Head of the Dubai Centre said: "We are delighted to welcome such a bright and ambitious set of individuals to the UAE. The tour is timely as it coincides with His Highness Sheikh Khalifa's state visit to the UK to celebrate what is a very long and fruitful friendship between the UK and UAE. We, at Cass Dubai Centre, are proud to be a part of the effort to further cement those ties now and into the future."



In 2012, the *Financial Times ranked* Cass Business School fourth in the UK and tenth in Europe. The Cass EMBA offered in Dubai is a flexible part-time course aimed at managers in the Gulf region who wish to accelerate their career development while remaining in full-time employment. Its state-of-the-art campus was opened in the DIFC in 2007 and has been home to over 300 executives and professionals studying on Cass's internationally acclaimed EMBA programme.

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#### Notes to editors:

#### **About Sir John Cass Business School:**

Cass Business School delivers innovative, relevant and forward-looking education, training, consultancy and research. Located in the heart of one of the world's leading financial centres, Cass is the business school for the City of London. Cass MBA, specialist Masters and undergraduate degrees have a global reputation for excellence, and the School supports nearly 100 PhD students. Cass offers the widest portfolio of specialist Masters programmes in Europe and has the largest faculties of Finance and Actuarial Science and Insurance in the region. It is ranked in the top 10 UK business schools for business, management and finance research and 90% of the research output is internationally significant. Cass is a place where students, academics, industry experts, business leaders and policy makers can enrich each other's thinking. For further information visit: <a href="https://www.cass.city.ac.uk">www.cass.city.ac.uk</a>.

The Cass Dubai Centre was established in 2007 in collaboration with Dubai International Financial Centre. It is a regional centre of educational excellence for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), and offers a number of courses, including an internationally renowned Executive MBA (EMBA) programme; tailor-made executive education programmes for companies and public institutions across the region; and MSc programmes in Aviation.

Cass's EMBA programme in Dubai currently offers over 250 executives and professionals an opportunity to combine demanding work schedules with an internationally acclaimed EMBA nearer to their home and work environments. Cass EMBA in Dubai is tailored to the agendas of the region's managers and business leaders, and is notable for being the world's first programme to offer specialist Islamic Finance and Energy modules. The Dubai Centre also runs City University London's MSc programmes in Aviation. City University London, of which Cass is a part, has been running Masters courses in Air Transport Management, Air Safety Management and Aircraft Maintenance Management since 1997. The MSc programmes have over 400 students worldwide, including 90 current students from the Gulf region. In 2011, Cass Dubai Centre established an advisory board to provide advice and support in the region. For more information visit: <a href="https://www.cass.city.ac.uk/dubaicentre">www.cass.city.ac.uk/dubaicentre</a>

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